

SUPPORT BULLETIN  
EARLY RETIREMENT LEGISLATION

For a number of years, the Agency has studied carefully the Civil Service Retirement program as it applied to Agency personnel needs. It was determined that the retirement program for certain employees should be improved. Aside from the additional special requirements applicable to Agency employment, employees who serve overseas are subject to essentially the same conditions of service which were the basis for the development of the Foreign Service Retirement system. Our study led to the conclusion that the adoption of a system similar to the Foreign Service Retirement system would more nearly meet our own personnel requirements. Among other things, the Foreign Service Act has more adequate provisions for early retirement than is provided under the Civil Service Retirement program.

A specific legislative proposal was prepared which would provide certain Agency employees with retirement benefits similar to those provided under the Foreign Service system. The proposal also included authorization for the Director to adopt and apply to certain Agency employees other provisions of law which are presently applicable to Foreign Service personnel. A draft bill was cleared by the Bureau of the Budget, the Civil Service Commission and other elements of the Executive Branch and introduced in the House of

of Representatives by Representative Carl Vinson, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee.

Hearings were held on this proposal by the Armed Services Committee. The Committee was sympathetic to our objectives and offered some suggestions for changes in format and wording. However, the inevitable press on the Congress in the closing days of this session made it impossible for the Committee to give further consideration to the bill. We are working carefully on the proposal and it will be introduced again in the 88th Congress.

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